UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.7/1997/NGO.3
18 March 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
Fortieth session
Vienna, 18-27 March 1997
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

GENERAL DEBATE

Statement** submitted by the International Council on Alcohol and Addiction a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996.

* E/CN.7/1997/1.
**This document has not been edited.

V.97-21584

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE VIENNA NGO COMMITTEE ON NARCOTIC DRUGS FOR THE YEAR 1996

The Committee had eight sessions in 1996.

1. NGO DELEGATION VISIT FROM JAPAN

In March 1996 a delegation from the Drug Abuse Prevention Centre from Tokyo, Japan visited Vienna , to present their annual NGO contribution to UNDCP. The delegation, headed by Mr. Shunzo Abe, Director of DAPS was composed of 8 high school students, YOUNG AMBASSADORS, 4 boys and 4 girls.

The NGO Committee assisted UNDCP and the Japanese Embassy in Vienna in organising part of the programme for the delegation. Two specific programmes were set up for them;

1. Meeting with Girl Guides and Boy Scouts of the City of Vienna.
2. Visit to the Anton Proksch Institute, a drug treatment Centre in Vienna.

Mr., W.H. Tanaka, first Vice-Chairman of the Committee acted as interpreter to the delegation.

2. CELEBRATION OF THE 26TH JUNE 1996 INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

The Committee celebrated the International Day by organising an NGO Symposium, held at the Vienna International School. Following the ever-increasing importance of demand reduction as part of the international drug policies and the constant call for more active youth participation in drug abuse prevention programmes, the Committee decided to invite youth representatives of different Austrian Peer-Group-based primary prevention projects to discuss "Models of Peer Group Education in Addiction Prevention Practice".

The three specific projects presented were;

Responsible Living - Enjoyable Living (Wiedner Gymnasium - Vienna)
Systemic Prevention of addiction behaviour or Living Space at School (Liesing Gymnasium Vienna)
Pupils searching fro alternative strategies (The Graz Peer-Group Project - Graz)
Reports on the celebrations of the 26th June were received from member NGOs, in particular from Russia, Togo and Nepal.

3. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

The Committee participated through its First Secretary, Mr. R. Schildböck in the ICAA 40th International Institute on the Prevention and Treatment of Dependencies, held in July in Amsterdam, where he actively encouraged increasing youth participation in future Institutes. At the closing session of the Institute, together with a youth representative from the Netherlands he made an appeal to invite young people to international meetings to enable them to work out prevention programmes for youth by youth.

Several members of the Committee took part in the YOUTH FORUM of the UN System, held in October in Vienna. Working Group VII of the Forum was devoted to YOUTH AND DRUGS.

The Chairman represented the Committee at the Latin American Conference on Therapeutic Communities in Brasilia in October, which was organised by CONFEN (Drug Abuse Commission of Brazil).

She also represented the Committee in the Symposium on Drugs, Alcohol and Violence, organised by the Centre for Alcohology in Porto and the Plinius Major Society. The meeting was held in Porto, Portugal.

4. UN "SPORTS AGAINST DRUGS" CAMPAIGN

During the World Regatta, known as the "Hong Kong Challenge" the Austrian team sailing the vessel "City of Wiener Neustadt" under the co-ordination of Mr. Andreas Hanakamp will carry an anti-drug message. The NGO Committee has approached national NGOs in several ports (Cape Town, Mauritius,. Fukuoka, Hong Kong and Singapore) to mobilise the NGO community in organising a special event for the team and to-enforce the commitment of NGOs to work together in the fight against drug abuse.

5. RENEWED CO-OPERATION WITH THE NGO COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK

The Committee met in November with Mrs. R. Harris, the new chairperson of the New York NGO Committee on Substance Abuse and discussed plans for future co-operation. The first joint activity will be to plan for NGO activities in conjunction with the Special Session of the General Assembly to be held in 1998.

6. PARTICIPATION IN THE 40TH SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

Most members of the Committee represented their respective organisations during the Session. A joint statement was drafted and presented to the Commission, calling for increased activities in the field of demand reduction, with special emphasis on prevention and the need for the involvement of youth in such activities.

7. RELATIONSHIP WITH UNDCP

Close co-operation with UNDCP continued throughout the year. UNDCP participated at every session of the Committee as well as at the 26th June celebrations. Substantial material was received from UNDCP concerning ongoing prevention programmes and related research .

8. NEW MEMBERS

The following NGOs were applying and admitted to membership of the Committee;

1. Association for the Advancement of Psychological Understanding of Human Nature - Switzerland
2. Bangladesh Anti Drug Abuse Organisation - Bangladesh
3. Federation of Drug-Free Treatment Centres in Europe - Germany
4. Federation of Indian NGOs for Drug Abuse Prevention - India
5. Gunderuplund Rehabilitation Centre - Denmark
6. Institute of Training Concern - Bangladesh
7. Mr. George Kazinos , Lions Club Cyprus - Cyprus
8. Kieler Institute for Prevention - Germany
9. Russian Narcological Association - Russia
10. RFHL - Sweden
11. SHALOM - India
12. National Council on the Prevention of Drug Abuse - Sierra Leone
13. Villa Renata TC - Italy

9. PUBLICATIONS

Two reports were published in 1996, one concerning the 26th June 1996 and the second a brief report on the Symposium on WOMEN AND DRUGS, which the Committee jointly organised with UNDCP during the 4th UN Conference on Women, held in Beijing, Republic of China in September, 1995.

10. SUMMARY REPORT OF MEMBER ORGANISATIONS' ACTIVITIES

10/a CENTRO ITALIANO DI SOLIDARIETA (CeIS)

The CeIS had further developed some of its projects of prevention and treatment. Internationally the most significant move has been made with the end of the UNDCP financed project for the YUNGAS (Bolivia) area. The responsibility for health of this large Bolivian region is now under the leadership of the Fundacion Pro Yungas, set up by UNDCP, the Bolivian Government and CeIS. Among the activities of the Fundacion, an important part has been the new development of the Hospital of Coroico and its new attention to medical research in tropical medicine.

An interesting training project fro staff of drug related NGOs from Pakistan, India, Nepal, Thailand and Malaysia financed by the EU, started in spring 1996.

Locally, CeIS continues with the existing programmes for addicts, adding a new project of re-education for prison inmates, called the Piranesi project. 1996 has seen new attention to adolescents in crisis situations. A new large programme of support to methadone patients is one of the more successful activities.

Professional training with differentiated curricula and structures has successfully involved addicts in treatment in CeIS and unemployed population.

The editorial section has published various books for specialists as well as prevention material.

The denomination of CeIS as a "Cultural Organisation" has given new impetus to the regular concert, theatre and exhibition activities for which it is well-known in the community.

1996 has been important for CeIS's new and close relationship with national and international Universities and it is planned to start common projects with these academic institutions in 1997.

10/b INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (ICW)

ICW is not specialised in drug problems. However, as early as in 1925 submitted a resolution on "Opium and Drugs" in Washington DC and again issued another resolution in 1947 on "Narcotic Drugs". Several other recommendations were made in the field, i.e. to ECOSOC o change the name of "Permanent Central Office on Opium" into "Permanent Central Office on Narcotic Drugs", in Athens in 1951 a document was published on "Education on the Dangers of Drug Abuse", in 1954 in Helsinki on "Dangers of Toxicomania" in 1970 in Bangkok on "Abuse of toxic drugs" and in 1988 in Washington on "Drugs". At present the Sub-Committee on Youth is dealing with issues of substance abuse to encourage young people to play an active role in various government programmes that relate to the war on drugs and other substance abuse related matters. Further it is envisaged to develop educational programmes which will provide young people with information on substance abuse and its dangers to health.

10/c INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL AND ADDICTIONS (ICAA)

During the year ICAA organised its 40th International Institute on the Prevention and Treatment of Dependencies in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The Institute attracted about 800 participants from the 5 continents. Dr. H. Nakajima, Director General of WHO spoke during the opening ceremony. UNDCP, WHO and ILO sent representatives/speakers to the Institute. H.M. Beatrix, the Queen of the Netherlands attended one of the plenary sessions, that dealt with Prevention Issues. A report of the Institute prepared

Approaches" was also published. For the first time, the issue of gambling as an addiction was also discussed.

<ICAA became a member of the International Consortium, established in 1996 April. The aim of the Consortium is to be a partner in the implementation of the UNDCP/WHO project "Global Initiative on primary prevention in developing countries". As part of this project, ICAA assisted in the setting up of the South African Alliance on the Prevention of Substance Abuse (SAAPSA).

A survey was carried out and published on Alcohol Advertising and Promotion within the European Union. Another pilot project on Alcohol and Morbidity was completed during the year.

ICAA participated at the 40th Session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs in April in Vienna and made a statement supporting the Expert Committee on Drug Abuse, held in Geneva in October.

10/d LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL

In 1996 Lions Clubs of District 114-0/Austria continued its Drug Abuse Awareness Programme under the initiatives of local Lions Clubs in co-operation with the respective Parents and Teachers Associations and the School Directions. As of end of 1996, over 100 meetings with some 1,300 attendants were organised since the Programme was started in March 1989. Is planned to have a model programme demonstration /Know-how/ at the February 1997 Session of the NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna.

10/e PAX ROMANA - ICMICA-MIIC

Pax Romana has been continuing its anti-drug work stressing the great importance of preventive, formative education starting in early childhood; consulting families in need and promoting peer-group education. Different projects are in their implementation phase, such as reducing violence, helping street-children and others.

10/f WORLD ORGANISATION OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT (WOSM)

Since the first experimental Scout Camp on the Island of Brownsea off the English Coast nearly 90 years ago, several generations of children and young people have been educated within the Scout Movement.

This informal education aims at contributing to the development of children and young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

This statement of purpose of WOSM emphasises the educational character of the Scout Movement which is directed towards the total development of a person's capacities in so doing, the methods of scouting are in itself methods of primary prevention.

In addition to this general preventive aspects, several specific drug abuse prevention projects were launched by various national scout associations for which the project in Kenya is one example:

The Kenya Scout Association joined the efforts "to introduce preventive education through formal and informal systems and to commence drug counselling services" undertaken by the Kenyan Government as well as UNDCP and UNFPA.

"The project provides assistance to cover needs identified by KSA in the areas of

* integration of drug preventive education training activities into the existing structure of the KSA programmes for family life education and peer counselling:

* sensitisation of the public on the dangers of drug abuse;

* upgrading of the drug prevention capability of the KSA and reinforcing its drug prevention activities."

Activities on international level included for example;

- message delivered to the staff of UNDCP and the public by a young Austrian scout on the occasion of the 9th International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking;

- active participation in activities of the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs;

- close involvement in WHO activities related to substance abuse;

- participation at the 40th Session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs where a representative made a statement in supporting demand reduction and primary prevention activities of UNDCP.

10/g WORLD LEISURE AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION (WARLESS)

Although WLRA is an NGO not specifically concerned with drug demand reduction it is felt that the Association can contribute effectively in this field, due to its multidisciplinary activities. Recent examples;

- 4th World Congress Free Time and Quality of Life for the 21st Century where members of the Association presented, examined and recommended action concerning projects, policies and research on such issues as recreational programmes, access and options for young people; leisure in community development and in urban areas; health issues; leisure and unemployment; sport for all; tourist behaviour Ira.

- WLRA recently issued International Charter for Leisure Education draw attention to the significance and benefits of leisure and education for and in free time. Workshops are being held to consider implementation and inclusion of this element in basic school curricula.

- The WLRA International Centre for Excellence offering an M.Sc. in "Leisure and the Environment", at the University of Wageningen, the Netherlands, brings together students and faculty from all parts of the world. Within this multi-cultural setting the issues of leisure and their interaction with social and cultural environment are addressed, including the problems of drug abuse, drug abuse preventive education and the role of leisure and recreation in providing constructive options for the use of free time. Most students will go on to work with young people, as teachers, in community development, the media, tourism and other professions. WLRA considers that this programme has a seed effect, on a global basis, and therefore can contribute very effectively to drug demand reduction.

- The Association's Task Force on AIDS has continued to disseminate information of importance leisure and recreational professionals and organises periodical seminars on the subject

- The special issue of the WLRA journal World Leisure and Recreation addressed "Youth at Risk" as a follow-up to an international seminar held for parks and recreation managers on the same subject.

- A young participant from India represented WLRA at the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System and took part in the Working Group concerned with Youth and Drug Abuse. WLRA is co-sponsoring a statement to the Commission concerning the recommendations put forward by the young participants at the Forum.

The Association continues to explore and identify further instances where relevant contributions can be made in the field of drug demand reduction.